

**1999 HOUSE AGRICULTURE**  
**HCR 3029**

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3029

House Agriculture Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 2-11-99

| Tape Number                                    | Side A | Side B | Meter # |
|--|--------|--------|---------|
| Two HCR 3029                                   |        | x      | 0 to 12 |
|  |        |        |         |
|  |        |        |         |
| Committee Clerk Signature <i>Arline Hanson</i> |        |        |         |

Minutes:

Summary of Resolution: Urges Congress to pursue legislation to allow US farmer to use same crop production products as Canada.

Rep Nelson: Dist 7.. Asks for favorable recommendation on HCR 3029 which attempts to move US Congress and the EPA to address the problem of crop protection and harmonization with Canada. And if progress is not made in that area crops currently imported into this country using crop protection products not registered in the US would be disallowed. There has been much lip service given to this problem since the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) but the truth is the North Dakota producer is at a distinct disadvantage with our Canadian counterparts. I live in a part of the state where a huge quantities of canola grown in Canada. Much of that crop is grown using products that are now legal here in ND and the US.

We need to get some thing done to equalize our playing field with Canada. Simply not enough for our congressional delegation to introduce legislation during a campaign year and then just allow it to go away after the election.

Rep Nowatzki: If Harmonization doesn't take place when is the dead line to do something?

Rep Nelson: This legislation just urges Congress to do something and see that there is some results that's long overdue.

Rep Stefonowicz: Third point is the meat of your resolution is to require the manufacture of a product publicly justify the use or disuse of a product. How do you go about this?

Rep Nelson: There is a lot of confusion as to why there is a difference in the price of a product from one side of the border to the other. Certainly are a lot of people here who can answer that better then I. The process for registration of products for use on crops is more burdensome and then also more costly in our country then in others. Course the monetary difference in our dollar has a lot to do with it.

John Olson: ACPA, American Crop Protection Assoc. In favor of the Resolution.

Gary Knutson: ND Agriculture Committee Assoc. In favor of HCR 3035..

Marvin Nelson: Crop consultant in Rolla area in early 80's. Farmer also. Feels the chemical companies are gouging them when chemicals are lower in Canada then US. Passed out some copies of variance in prices from Canada and the US. Generally run 6 to 7 dollars an acre higher in ND then Canada for the same product. Cost of producing the chemical is the same just feels they are charging what ever the market will bear.

Rep Brusegaard: Do Canadian's pay sale tax?

Marvin Nelson: No they don't.

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House Agriculture Committee

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Robert -----: Farmer rancher in the Halliday area. Also on the board of directors for the ND

Grain growers. We believe in free and fair trade but this is neither.

Chm Nicholas asked what the committee wishes were on HCR 3029.. Rep Brandenburg moved a  
do pass and be placed on the consent calendar. Second by Rep Johnson.. Unanimous vote.

Date:  
Roll Call Vote #:

1999 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3029

House AGRICULTURE Committee

- Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do pass Consent

Motion Made By Brusegaard Seconded By Johnson

| Representatives             | Yes | No | Representatives | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|-----------------|-----|----|
| Eugene Nicholas, Chaiman    |     |    | Bob Stefonowicz |     |    |
| Dennis E. Johnson, Vice Chm |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Thomas T. Brusegaard        |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Earl Rennerfeldt            |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Chet Pollert                |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Dennis J. Renner            |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Michael D. Brandenburg      |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Gil Herbel                  |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Rick Berg                   |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Myron Koppang               |     |    |                 |     |    |
| John M. Warner              |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Rod Froelich                |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Robert E. Nowatzki          |     |    |                 |     |    |
| Phillip Mueller             |     |    |                 |     |    |

Total (Yes) Carried No \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)  
February 12, 1999 10:32 a.m.

Module No: HR-29-2722  
Carrier: Nicholas  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3029: Agriculture Committee (Rep. Nicholas, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).** HCR 3029 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

**1999 SENATE AGRICULTURE**

**HCR 3029**

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3029

Senate Agriculture Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3/18/99

| Tape Number                                     | Side A | Side B | Meter #   |
|---|--------|--------|-----------|
| 2   | X      |        | 3312-4671 |
|   |        |        |           |
|   |        |        |           |
| Committee Clerk Signature <i>Tricia Johnson</i> |        |        |           |

Minutes:

Senator Wanzek called the meeting to order, roll call was taken, all were present.

Senator Wanzek opened the hearing on HCR 3029.

Representative Nelson introduced the bill. It addresses the problem of crop harmonization.

Representative Brandenburg spoke in support of the bill. Feels this is an important issue.

Lance Gaebe from the ND Grain Growers stood in support of the bill.

Beth Baumstark from the Attorney General's office stood in support of the bill.

Ab Basu from the American Crop Protection Association stood in support of the resolution. Felt it was a positive direction for state government to go.

Tom Borgen stood in support of the bill.

Senator Wanzek closed the hearing.

Senator Klein made the motion for a Do Pass.



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Senate Agriculture Committee

Bill/Resolution Number Hcr 3029

Hearing Date 3/18/99

Senator Kinnoin seconded.

ROLL CALL: 7 Yes, 0 No

CARRIER: Senator Mathern

Date: 3/18  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

1999 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 4023029

Senate Agriculture Committee

Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass Consent

Motion Made By Klein Seconded By Kinnoin

| Senators         | Yes | No | Senators | Yes | No |
|------------------|-----|----|----------|-----|----|
| Senator Wanzek   | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Klein    | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Sand     | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Urlacher | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Kinnoin  | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Kroeplin | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
| Senator Mathern  | ✓   |    |          |     |    |
|                  |     |    |          |     |    |
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|                  |     |    |          |     |    |
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|                  |     |    |          |     |    |
|                  |     |    |          |     |    |
|                  |     |    |          |     |    |

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment Senator Mathern

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)  
March 18, 1999 4:23 p.m.

Module No: SR-49-5144  
Carrier: D. Mathern  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HCR 3029: Agriculture Committee (Sen. Wanzek, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).** HCR 3029 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

1999 TESTIMONY

HCR 3029

## Testimony for HCR3029

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Agriculture Committee. For the record, my name is Jon Nelson. I serve District 7 in the North Dakota House of Representatives and also farm in northcentral North Dakota.

I come to you today to ask your favorable recommendation on HCR 3029 which attempts to move the US Congress and the EPA to address the problem of crop protection harmonization with Canada, and if progress is not made in this area, crops currently imported into this country using crop protection products not registered in the US would be disallowed.

Mr. Chairman, there has been much lip service given to this issue since passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement, but the truth of the matter is, the North Dakota producer is at a distinct disadvantage with our Canadian counterparts in regard to crop protection product selection, and the prices of these products, which ultimately affects our producers ability to diversify into new crops and make the crops we traditionally grow more profitable. Additionally, data that is used by EPA in its registration process cannot be currently shared with Canada or their data used by EPA. This drives up the prices of these crop protection products, and lengthens the registration process.

We are all concerned that the products we produce are done so in a safe manner. I live in a District that processes huge quantities of canola from Canada. Much of that product is treated with chemicals that are not registered in this country. It may also be surprising to you that this Canadian canola is priced at a higher level than our US production.

Our North Dakota producers are very frustrated with the lack of action in regard to these issues. We continually lose family farmers, generally those younger farmers whose children no longer go to our rural schools.

This affects the entire economy of rural North Dakota. It simply is not enough for our Congressional Delegation to introduce legislation during a campaign year and then just allow it to collect dust after the election is over. It is simply not enough for the crop protection industry to justify the price spread of their products between Canada and the US on registration inequities between the two countries. And it is simply not enough that the regulatory agencies of the federal government move so slowly with the registration process to protect the consuming public that those in production agriculture are left hanging in the wind.

We must send a message to Congress, the crop protection industry, and the consuming public that resolution of this harmonization issue is one of the most important issues we will be faced with. This resolution, in concert with other legislation in this session, begins to address this issue in an urgent fashion. The future of production agriculture as we know it, the safest, most affordable, and most efficient supply of food in the world today is too important to ignore this issue any longer.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and committee members for a favorable recommendation on HCR 3029.